

HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 30, 2004

The Hamilton County Board of Commissioners met on Friday, July 30, 2004 at the Hamilton County Highway Department, 1700 S. 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. President Dillinger called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. A quorum was declared present of Commissioner Christine Altman, Commissioner Steven C. Dillinger and Commissioner Steven A. Holt.

Indiana Mills and Manufacturing Proposal:

Mr. Brad Davis stated Indiana Mills and Manufacturing (IMMI) has been in discussions with the highway department since March 2004. IMMI is concerned about the Indiana Department of Transportation's (INDOT) plan for upgrading US 31 and the proposed interchange at 191st Street. IMMI contends that the ramp that is proposed will take away their retention pond in front of their building and that is not acceptable to them. IMMI has expansion plans and wants to stay in Hamilton County. They have asked INDOT to do something different. IMMI hired A&F Engineering, who came up with three proposals. IMMI and A&F met with INDOT and showed them the proposals which INDOT agreed to only one proposal. INDOT has asked IMMI to get a letter from the Hamilton County Commissioners and the Town of Westfield stating they support this proposal. Holt asked if they asked for a letter from Carmel? Davis stated they said nothing about Carmel. Davis stated the proposal is to shift the interchange to the north. Consensus of the commissioners is to send a letter of support. Davis stated the highway department will draft the letter for signature at the next meeting.

2005 Highway Projects:

Davis reviewed the 2005 Highway Projects. Altman asked if we will be on track with our 2004 projects through the end of the year? Davis stated yes. Davis stated at the last meeting we asked for consultant selection for four projects, which exhausts what we had planned to start in 2004. Some of those projects may carry over for construction.

Altman asked if we will be able to encumber any of those funds? Neal stated we are waiting for one parcel on the 106th Street and Springmill round-about before we can let it. If we want to let it we can, so we can encumber the money. Altman asked where are we on the condemnation process on that parcel? Neal stated we had a new appraisal done because Valinet sold the sewer easement so all the trees have been cleared. The condemnation has been turned over to Ann Poindexter.

Metropolitan Planning Organization:

Altman asked if we have enough money in the budget to contribute the local share to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)? Altman stated the MPO based the local shares on population. Hamilton County, under the existing planning area, annual share would be \$13,586. It also contemplates that Arcadia, Carmel, Cicero, Fishers, Noblesville and Westfield would contribute. Altman stated she has spoken with Carmel, Noblesville and Fishers and they will contribute their local share. Non of the other entities have been participating in the planning sessions. If you add those shares it would be approximately \$18,000 to complete Hamilton County's portion of the planning. If additional federal dollars come down, that we match, we could do local planning with their staff. Altman stated she has discussed with Davis the possibility of doing a Hamilton County Comprehensive Review. Altman stated Davis does not think we could do that in house. Altman motioned to include \$18,000 in the 2005 budget for the local share of the MPO. Holt seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Altman stated we will have \$100,000 from the sale of the property at 146th Street and SR 37, which is unappropriated. Neal asked if Altman would like the highway department to turn in an additional request to get the money appropriated back to highway? Altman and Dillinger stated yes. Davis confirmed putting a line item in for \$18,000 for MPO.

Bridge Maintenance:

Davis stated there is \$500,000 for bridge maintenance that did not show up in the 2005 budget. It is in Cumulative Bridge. We did not get a budget sheet for Cumulative Bridge and that \$500,000 fell through the cracks. Davis stated he is trying to keep that amount in the forefront so they do not lose bridge maintenance money. Altman stated we need a direct appropriation out of Cumulative Capital for bridge work and schedule the bridges within that. Altman asked Ms. Rauch to find out if that money is in the Cumulative Capital budget. Davis stated at some time we need to discuss strategy on the issue of not having a Cumulative Bridge Fund. Altman asked Mr. Swift to find out where Mr. Howard is on the interlocal agreements regarding the Cumulative Bridge Fund.

Funding Carryover:

Davis stated we have estimated that there is approximately \$600,000 that is a carry over from 2003 that is not earmarked for anything and is available to us. Neal stated according to his calculations there is \$602,000. Altman asked if we are comfortable that existing projects will come in within the budgeted amount? Is this something we need to reserve to make sure we get our existing projects completed? Thurman stated 106th Street and College is the biggest question mark. We have received an additional of \$35,000, other than that we have no contingency on that project. We are getting reimbursed for inspection as we go. Altman asked what kind of extras may come up? Thurman stated it has gotten off to a rough start with utility relocations. Altman stated if there are extras that come up, we should talk to Carmel immediately because they are taking it over. Davis stated the only other project would be the bridge over Geist, right now we have no large change orders. Mr. Matt Knight stated he is not aware of any large change orders coming. When we get our reimbursement from INDOT it should more than cover anything we have at that project. Neal stated that we have not earmarked \$600,000 in COIT and approximately \$200,000 in COIT from the 1997 Bond Issue that is sitting in the Olio Road line item. Neal stated he will have to check with the Auditor's office to verify. Neal stated he would like to try and do a clearing contract either late this year or early next year on Olio Road from 96th Street north to Geist. We could then move forward with utility relocation. He estimates the clearing contract to be \$70,000. Neal stated some other projects we could move forward with are an additional for Hazel Dell design work for reconstruction of a legal drain for our drainage to get to the Vestal Ditch. We will need to go back to the engineer, ACE, to make sure our estimated agreement is still good. We will go for design and right of way engineering at the same time so we can have everything in place for right of way acquisition. Altman asked how is that developing out in terms of exactions? Neal stated there has not been much movement from 146th Street north. Holt asked if the county's portion of the project a moving target? Neal stated the reimbursement of the bond issue is the moving target. Noblesville has said they would like to go back with the original agreement we had so they can delete 156th Street to 146th Street from the calculations on the bond repayment. That was paid for by a developer. It should not figure in to the cost share

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agreement. Altman asked if that increases our percentage? Altman stated she does not like that deal. Dillinger stated it is probably fair. Holt stated if the agreement has been written that if they have an exaction it would come off, then it would be fair. Neal will review the agreement.

146th Street Extension:

Altman asked where are we on connecting 146th Street Extension? Davis stated they have met with INDOT and reviewed the process to get the \$1 million reimbursement, it is not a grant. We have started the process. The money will come through the MPO. Davis stated we have it on the agenda for plan amendment, it has gone through the Tech Committee, July 21st Policy Committee and is now on it's way to the Metropolitan Development Commission, which should meet in the next couple of weeks. It then goes back to INDOT to prepare an in-step amendment to the Federal Highway Administration. Once that is approved then the Federal Highway Administration can authorize the project. Once the project is authorized, from that date on, expenses incurred for the project are reimbursable. It has been identified to be used for preliminary engineering. We also have to have an agreement with INDOT before they can authorize the money to be released for reimbursable expenses. That agreement from INDOT can come after the date of authorization, the reimbursable expenses will be from the date of authorization. Altman asked if you have any idea what the date of authorization may be? Davis stated INDOT has said it does not take long. Once INDOT gets word from the MPO, then it is a matter of federal highway, which should take a couple of days. Altman asked if that helps us long-term on that project in regards to getting federal earmarks? Davis stated he does not know if it will help us to get earmarks, but it will help the process once we get additional earmarks, if we do. INDOT still has to review our consultant selection process and our consultant agreements. They will then draft an agreement for us, then once that is approved we will start receiving reimbursement.

Holt asked if there is a list of projects we should review to use the \$600,000? Neal stated the one project that we could move forward with is 96th Street and Towne Road. We could do the inspection in house. Construction is estimated at \$500,000 to \$525,000. This would add turn lanes and a signal. This is the one road project we have ready.

Holt asked if that would be throwing money away if Carmel comes in and determines that is not a proper build out? Altman asked if we have lost jurisdiction on Towne Road to Carmel? Dillinger stated we do not have that. Mayor Brainard was adamant that he wanted another parkway and he was not going to have another Keystone on the west side that he could not control. Neal stated we could do a signal project which would help things in the interim. It would not have any turn lanes. Altman stated that is a bottleneck and it has priority since we can't do anything else with this money. Holt asked how long will this be a county intersection? Altman stated Mayor Brainard has begun the process of annexation for that area. The homeowners have been notified by certified mail. Holt asked to table until we can meet with Brainard. Swift will set up a meeting. Altman will talk to Brainard about Carmel's annexation plans before the commissioners meet with him.

256th Street Bridges:

Holt asked what is the status of the bridges on 256th Street, specifically Joe Robbins? Mr. Mike McBride stated they met with the contractor and an estimate is being prepared for raising the house. Mr. Robbins is thrilled with improving the ditch and raising his driveway.

Outbuilding Replacement:

Davis stated the money has been appropriated to demolish and construct the outbuilding at the highway department. Davis asked if the commissioners would like to proceed? Davis stated an initial plan has been prepared. Davis would like to review the plans before approving a final design. This building will be used for equipment storage. Trucks will park there in the winter and off season equipment would be stored. Davis stated he would like to see an adequate wash bay installed. He is working on keeping the equipment in better condition. Part of the problem is that the equipment needs to be washed regularly. Davis stated there is \$658,000 in the budget. Davis stated Scott Warner has been getting estimates on getting this building's roof replaced, during that process they looked at the roof of the outbuilding and it is pretty bad. Either we fix the roof or portions of the roof will start falling in. Dillinger asked if it could be done within this budget? Davis stated we would have to build it to fit in the budget. Altman stated she is concerned about the feedback she has received from council. Altman asked Davis to put together a justification of why we need to have it. Holt asked if the wash facility will be a power washer with a drainage system? Davis stated yes, it would be a stationary hot water power washer, that fits in to a bay with a proper drainage system. Davis stated they have had ribs on the dump beds on trucks, which were purchased within the last four years, that have rusted out. The last truck purchased will have a stainless steel bed, which will eliminate the rust problem but it does add costs to each truck. Holt suggested using Jail Trustys, under supervision, be brought out to the highway department to wash and wax the trucks on a regular basis. Holt motioned to proceed with the storage facility. Altman seconded based on equipment justification. Motion carried unanimously. Davis asked if the commissioners would like him to continue to use ACE to develop the bid plans? Holt asked Davis to get costs on a standard building. Dillinger asked Davis to get back to the commissioners before he orders anything.

Mailbox Policy:

Davis stated last year we had approximately 90 people who contacted the highway department regarding their mailbox. 20% have notified us but have never returned the form, which is an outstanding liability. Davis asked if we should amend the mailbox policy to include a time limit of 30 days for the form to be returned. Consensus of the commissioners was to include the time limit. Davis stated they have taken pictures of mailboxes that should have been replaced and they have been paid for, but not replaced. Altman suggested taking pictures for the files so they can not claim their mailbox was destroyed and receive another payment.

Holt left the meeting. [8:25 a.m.]

Equipment Surplus:

Davis requested approval of the list of highway equipment to be declared surplus for the auction. Davis stated

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several county departments have contacted him about acquiring some of this equipment. Dillinger stated they will need commissioners approval. Altman asked Swift to contact the Sheriff to see if there will be a list of equipment the Sheriff would like included in the auction. Altman motioned to approve the list as submitted, reserving items as requested. Dillinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Animal Control Shelter:

Altman asked if we are moving forward on the design for the animal control facility? Dillinger stated Envoy is waiting for instructions from the commissioners. Howard is supposed to have the preliminary agreement with the humane society before us at the next meeting. Altman would like to schedule an appointment with Paul I. Cripe to see where they are at and what their suggestions are. She would like to get moving on it.

Permission to Advertise - Vehicles:

Davis requested permission to advertise for the purchase of two 4x4 pickup trucks, two utility vehicles and one salt spreader. Altman motioned to approve. Dillinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dillinger adjourned the meeting.

Present

- Christine Altman, Commissioner
- Steven C. Dillinger, Commissioner
- Steven A. Holt, Commissioner
- Brad Davis, Highway Director
- Jim Neal, Highway Engineer
- Joel Thurman, Highway Project Engineer
- Mike McBride, Small Structure Staff Engineer
- Matt Knight, Highway Staff Engineer
- Fred Swift, Administrative Assistant to Commissioners
- Kim Rauch, Administrative Assistant to Auditor

APPROVED
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

Robin M. Mills, Auditor